

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Paragraph [0031], please amend as follows:

**[0031]** As described above, the printing system of the present ~~invention~~ embodiment comprises an on-line client, print server, printer and scanner, as well as an off-line finishing device. Here, 'on-line' means that the device is connected to the other devices of the printing system locally or via a network, and 'off-line' means that the device is not connected to any of the other devices of the printing system via either route. Therefore, in this embodiment, the printer 30 and scanner 40 need not be a local printer or scanner connected to the print server 20, but may be a network printer or scanner directly connected to the network 50.

Paragraph [0035], please amend as follows:

**[0035]** The printer 30 forms images based on the bitmap data or compressed bitmap data transmitted from the print server 20. In the printing system ~~of the present invention~~, the printer 30 ~~has such~~ can have finishing features such as two-sided printing, stapling, punching and folding.

Paragraph [0038], please amend as follows:

**[0038]** Fig. 4 is a flow chart showing the sequence of printing order creation in the client 10. In the printing system of the present-invention embodiment, a printing order is placed by transmitting a job ticket (or more precisely, data pertaining thereto) and print data to the print server. In other words, a job ticket is first created in the client 10 (S101). Creation of a job ticket is performed by the user inputting prescribed information on the display 15 using the input device 16, such as a mouse and keyboard. Fig. 5 shows one example of a job ticket created on the client 10. As shown therein, the job ticket includes in the form of a table job information such as the job number, document information such as the original document name, file (application) type and total number of pages, user information such as the company name, department name, contact person's name, telephone number, e-mail address and physical address, finishing information such as the number of copies, imposition, whether the final product should be stapled, bound or folded, whether a cover page is required, and whether printing should be two-sided printing, and delivery information such as the delivery date, delivery destination and delivery method. The created job ticket is transmitted to the print server 20 via the network 50 (S102).

Paragraph [0042], please amend as follows:

**[0042]** The finishing specifics (finishing information) for the job indicated on the job ticket are then separated into tasks that are to be handled by the printer 30 and tasks

that are to be performed by the finishing device 60 (S203–S207). In other words, in the printing system including an on-line printer and an off-line finishing device, as in the ~~present invention~~ illustrated embodiment, the finishing of the final printed product may be performed using both the on-line printer and the off-line finishing device. In this case, the processes for the on-line printer, the processes for the off-line finishing device and the processes that may be performed by either device are shown in the job ticket in a mixed fashion. Conventionally, the operator performed necessary setting after determining which processes should be handled by the printer and which processes should be carried out by the finishing device while taking into consideration the specifications and the options installed on the on-line printer and the off-line finishing device, based on the description of the finish in the job ticket sent from the client, but because such a task is quite complicated, this imposed an undue burden on the operator. In the present invention, because the print server automatically sorts the finishing specifics based on the description of finish included in the job ticket (the finishing information), not only is the workload of the operator substantially reduced, but erroneous determinations by the operator may also be eliminated, thereby increasing the accuracy of the separation of tasks between the printer and the finishing device and enabling speedy and reliable performance of the finishing processes.